



COPY

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

KARUNANANDAA *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/614,221

Filed: July 11, 2000

For: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other
Molecules Associated with Sterol
Synthesis and Metabolism

Art Unit: 1638

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Atty. Docket: 16516.075

Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants hereby request entry of the following amendment in the above-captioned application:

In the Specification:

Please **add** the following paragraph on page 1, line 3, before the paragraph entitled "Field of the Invention":

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/142,981 filed July 12, 1999.

Remarks

The specification has been amended to update cross-reference to related application information. No new matter enters by this amendment.

The presently pending claims are believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at 202.942.5071 to address any unresolved issues remaining in this application.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Arnold and Porter Deposit Account No. 50-1824 referencing matter number 16516.075.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dd R. Marsh".

June E. Cohan (Reg. No. 43,471)

David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)

Date: Sept 17, 01

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